

February 27, 2004

**Request For Public Comments:
Scope Development for the *Dakotas Wind Transmission Study*
Western Area Power Administration**

Background

Western Area Power Administration (Western) requests public input to help define the scope of a new transmission study, or studies, on the placement of 500 MW of wind energy in North Dakota and South Dakota. The new study will build upon previous related technical work including the 2002 *Montana-Dakotas Regional Study*.

Comments should address:

- Study objectives—what should be studied and why
- Outcomes—what should result from the study
- Methods—how should the study be done

Process and Timeline

A draft study scope, developed from comments received from this request, will be published in the *Federal Register*. Two public meetings will be held, one in Pierre, South Dakota (May 6) and one in Bismarck, North Dakota (May 13), to solicit comments on the draft scope before it is finalized. Meeting locations and confirmation of the dates will be posted on Western's Web site (www.wapa.gov/ugp). Additional written comments will also be accepted on the draft scope.

Comment Deadline

Please provide comments on the study scope by 4 p.m. (Mountain Time), March 19, 2004.

How to Submit Comments

Western encourages you to submit comments by e-mail to: UGPDakotasWindTS@wapa.gov.

Submit electronic comments either directly in an e-mail text file or as a Microsoft Word, Adobe PDF, or ASCII format attachment and avoid the use of special characters or any form of encryption. Please use the subject *Dakotas Wind Study comments* and include the electronic signature of the author. If an electronic signature is not included, a signed paper copy should also be sent.

You may also submit written comments to: Mr. Sam Miller, Dakotas Wind Study Project Manager, Western Area Power Administration, Box 35800, Billings, MT, 59107-5800. Please submit one signed original and a computer diskette or compact disc (CD) in Microsoft Word, Adobe PDF, or ASCII file format.

For More Information

Please contact:

Sam Miller
Dakotas Wind Study Project Manager
csmiller@wapa.gov
406-247-7466

Ed Weber
Transmission System Planning Manager
weber@wapa.gov
406-247-7433